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## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

DT20 Rec'd PCT/PTO 0 2 JUL 2003

In re: HERMIDA  
Serial No: 10/082,743  
Confirmation No.: 4696  
Filed: February 22, 2002  
Group Art Unit: 1623  
Examiner: G. Krishnan

RECEIVED

JUL 15 2003

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

For: REGENERATION OF ARTICULAR CARTILAGE DAMAGED BY GRADE I AND II  
STEOARTHRITIS BY MEANS OF THE INTRAARTICULAR APPLICATION OF A MIXTURE OF  
SODIUM HYALURONATE AND CHONDROITIN SULFATE IN A GEL VEHICLE

**SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Mail Stop PCT  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to the duty of disclosure under 37 CFR §§ 1.56, 1.97, and 1.98, Applicant submits the attached PTO Form 1449 and copies of fourteen (14) references. Neither a final Office Action under §1.113 nor a Notice of Allowance under §1.311 have been issued in the above-referenced application. Please charge the \$180 fee required by §1.17(p) to deposit account no. 501051.

In accordance with 37 CFR §1.97(c), Barry L. Copeland hereby certifies that the references listed under AF, AL, AM and AN, were cited or partially cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the

filing of this Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement. A copy of the communication is attached to this paper.


Other information that may be considered pertinent includes at least one communication between an affiliate of the application's assignee and a third party relating to a potential licensing opportunity for the non-ophthalmic (e.g. osteoarthritic) use of the viscoelastic product known as VISCOAT®. A redacted copy of an August 18, 2000, letter of Dr. O.J. Lorenzetti is enclosed for the Examiner's consideration. No licenses resulted from such communication.

This statement is made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issuing thereon.

Applicant requests that the references listed in the accompanying PTO form 1449 be considered during prosecution of the above-referenced application, and that these references appear among the "References Cited" on any patent issuing herefrom.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 7/1/03

  
Barry L. Copeland  
Reg. No. 34,801

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